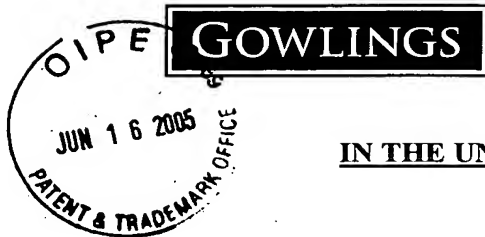


IFW



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**  
**OFFICIAL ACTION RESPONSE**

Mail Stop: RESPONSE - NO FEE  
Serial No.: 10/722503  
For: HARNESS FOR USE IN HARNESS RACING  
Applicant: Bernard Girault  
Filing Date: November 28, 2003  
Our Ref: ~~H311029USCOM~~ H310329USCOM  
Date: June 15, 2005

The Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington D.C.  
20231, U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

In response to the final action of April 5, 2005, please amend this application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Amend claim 1 as follows:

1. A harness for horse racing having:  
a back-engaging tree with an arched body shaped to fit across a horse's back, a pair of laterally-spaced fork members projecting downwardly from opposite sides of the arched body so as to extend downwardly on opposite sides of the horse's body when in use, and a pair of laterally-spaced independently resiliently deflectable spring members extending rearwardly from the arched body and shaped to conform with the shape of a horse's back, [and]  
the spring members of the back-engaging tree having in plan view laterally-inner edges which are substantially parallel and laterally-outer edges which diverge in a curved manner from the arched body portion to a maximum just beyond half-way along their length and then converge towards their rear ends, and  
a girth strap assembly attached to the back-engaging tree, the girth strap assembly having shaft attachments on opposite sides thereof below the back-engaging tree for attaching the shafts of a sulky thereto.